

Sep 18th 74

Broke camp 7.00 A. M. crossed crooked creek at camp crossing deep but good marched W. W. over level prairie. After 5 miles crossed ravine leading towards crooked creek a few trees on it on South bank ~~visable~~ all over the prairie dry run. Over level hard prairie much cut by breakers leading towards crooked creek ravines steep and deep. 11.45. struck wagon trail going south over hard level prairie after 3 miles struck head breaks of man arroya and Indian trail. Crossed north fork of man arroya above the running water and after crossing narrow divide went into camp on South fork. At spring above running water wide san run wood scarce grass good water good and fresh night cold heavy dew.

Sep 19-

Marched south over level and hard prairie cut by breaks running towards crooked creek followed indian trail after 4 miles crossed deep sand run head of stump arroya shortly afterwards a fork of it. low hills and rolling grass. Killed 1 buffallo. Through low rolling hills sometimes sandy towards cimarron. Through low heavy sand hills towards Cimarron hills covered with spare growth of coarse wiry grass halt on right of Cimarron on bluffs. From bluffs down to valley of Cimarron and into Camp on bank of river. bluffs high but good descent no wood grass scarce water salty and bad night cold.

Sept. 20, 74

Broke Camp 400AM and marched down the Cimarron one W. bank 2 miles crossed it and went over bluffs into Canon where a spring in a well concealed pocket and where I expected to find Indians as a fresh trail was here and as no resting place as been found yet. Halted at mouth of pocket dismounted and went up to it but saw no Indians, they had passed through but not stopped. old wickiup shows that it is a favorite camping place for Indians. it is well wooded and contains a large spring near its mouth is an old tumbled in dug out. The sides of the pocket are sloping. Marched up the canon to a pond of water unsaddled and cooked breakfast canon well wooded sandy bed of stream water in it in some places. Down the canon to Cimarron crossed it dry sandy run comes from canon down to river crossing of river good and hard, along cimarron following